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May 4, 2007

Via electronic filing

Ms. Rosa G. Lewis  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division  
Federal Election Commission  
Washington, DC 20463

RE: SEIU COPE, FEC ID C00004036  
Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report (10/1/06 -10/18/06), received 2/16/07

Dear Ms. Lewis:

I am counsel for the Service Employees International Union Committee on Political Education (SEIU COPE). This is in response to your letter dated April 4, 2007, regarding the 2006 Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report filed by SEIU COPE on 2/16/07. In that letter you raise five (5) questions regarding certain expenditures reported by SEIU COPE on Schedules B and E of its Report and on the 24 and 48 hour notices that SEIU COPE filed with the Commission disclosing certain independent expenditures. I will respond to your questions in the order they were asked.

Question 1.

SEIU COPE purchased the voter file, along with certain demographic information, for the State of Indiana from the Democratic National Committee for \$7,500. SEIU purchases voter contact files for other purposes and is familiar with the reasonable and customary charges for such data. The price for this data, given the size of the data file and the information provided, was comparable to voter files sold by other independent for profit vendors such as Voter Contact Services (VCS). Therefore, this expenditure was properly reported on line 21(b) as an operating expense and not a contribution.

Question 2.

SEIU COPE filed 24 hour notices for two independent expenditures which were broadcast starting on 10/24/06. Twenty-four hour notices disclosing these independent expenditures were filed with the FEC on 10/26/2006 approximately thirteen hours after they were due. SEIU COPE has filed a large number of 24 and 48 hour notices with the Commission, in addition to the other periodic reports required by the FEC Act and the Commission's regulations. SEIU COPE makes its best efforts to insure that all reports and notices are filed in a timely manner and regrets the delay in filing the notice for these two items out of over 100 items that were included in 17 notices filed in a 28 day period.

Question 3.

At issue here is whether SEIU COPE failed to file 24 hour notices for independent expenditures in opposition to candidate Chris Chocoma running in the Indiana 2nd Congressional District and Don Sherwood running in the Pennsylvania 10th Congressional District. The expenditures in question were for the continuation of TV and Cable ads that started on 10/11/06 and ultimately ran, without interruption, for two weeks until 10/24/2006. SEIU COPE filed 48 hour notices on 10/12/06 for the ads identifying the race, the candidate, the vendor, the date of the start of the independent expenditure and the cost of the first week of the ads (10/11 - 10/17). After the ads started, a final decision was made to continue to run the same ads for a second week (10/18 - 10/24) and the costs for continuing the ads were separately reported as an independent expenditure on Schedule E of SEIU COPE's Pre-General Report. While the payments for each week of the ads were separately reported on the Pre General Report, they were part of the same independent expenditures which were disclosed on by SEIU COPE on the 48 hour notices filed on 10/12/06.

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